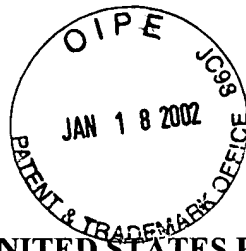


Docket No: 50023-149



RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

Technology Center 2600

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Yusuki MONOBE, et al.

Serial No.: 09/914,573

Filed: August 31, 2001

For: DOCUMENT IMAGE PROCESSOR, METHOD FOR EXTRACTING DOCUMENT
TITLE, AND METHOD FOR IMPARTING DOCUMENT TAG INFORMATION

:
:
:
:
:
:
:

Group Art Unit: 2622

Examiner: not yet assigned

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

Technology Center 2600

SUBMISSION OF ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

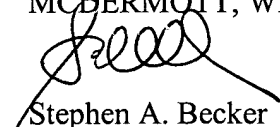
Sir:

Submitted herewith please find a copy of the English Translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report issued for the basic PCT application of the above-referenced case.

Acknowledgement and consideration of this document is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY


Stephen A. Becker
Registration No. 26,527

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
(202) 756-8000 SAB:jgh
Date: January 18, 2002
Facsimile: (202) 756-8087

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

MA 1636 PCT

P22482-PO

PCT
NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 72.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

FUKUI, Toyoaki
 Fukui & Partners
 Room 860, 10th Uchihonmachi
 Matsuya Building
 1-19, Uchihonmachi 2-chome
 Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi
 Osaka 540-0026
 JAPON

RECEIVED

✓ 0 1.12.04

FUKUI & PARTNERS

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 19 November 2001 (19.11.01)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference P22482	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/JP00/01177	International filing date (day/month/year) 29 February 2000 (29.02.00)
Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD. et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation made by the International Bureau of the international preliminary examination report established by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following elected Offices requiring such translation:

EP,US

Technology Center 2600

The following elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

None

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report.

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Eliott PERETTI Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38
--	---

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P22482	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/JP00/01177	International filing date (day/month/year) 29 February 2000 (29.02.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 01 March 1999 (01.03.99)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06T 7/00, G06F 17/30		
Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 8 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☒ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 21 September 2000 (21.09.00)	Date of completion of this report 12 June 2001 (12.06.2001)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/01177

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☐ the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the claims:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the drawings:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/01177

IV. Lack of unity of invention

1. In response to the invitation to restrict or pay additional fees the applicant has:

- ☐ restricted the claims.
- ☐ paid additional fees.
- ☐ paid additional fees under protest.
- ☐ neither restricted nor paid additional fees.

2. ☒ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose, according to Rule 68.1, not to invite the applicant to restrict or pay additional fees.

3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is

- ☐ complied with.
- ☒ not complied with for the following reasons:

See supplemental sheet for continuation of Box IV. 3.

4. Consequently, the following parts of the international application were the subject of international preliminary examination in establishing this report:

- ☒ all parts.
- ☐ the parts relating to claims Nos. _____

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP 00/01177

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: IV. 3.

Claims 1 to 20 pertain to a document title area extraction device/method/recording medium, and Claims 21 to 29 pertain to a document tag data attachment device/method/recording medium.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/JP 00/01177

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	3-9, 13-19, 22-29	YES
	Claims	1, 2, 10-12, 20, 21	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	5-7, 15-17	YES
	Claims	1-4, 8-14, 18-29	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-29	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1: JP, 9-120443, A (Canon Inc.), 6 May 1997
(06.05.97) (Family: none)

Document 2: JP, 5-54191, A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 5 March 1993
(05.03.93) (Family: none)

Document 3: Haruo Yanai et al., eds., Multivariate Analysis Handbook, 1st edition, Gendai Suugaku Sha, 20 April 1996 (20.04.96), p. 257

Document 4: JP, 5-135120, A (The Tokyo Electric Power Co., Inc., 1 other), 1 June 1993
(01.06.93) (Family: none)

Document 5: JP, 8-147313, A (Canon Inc.), 7 June 1996
(07.06.96) (Family: none)

Document 6: JP, 8-139920, A (Ricoh Co., Ltd.), 31 May 1996 (31.05.96) (Family: none)

Document 7: JP, 63-115456, A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 20 May 1988
(20.05.88) (Family: none)

Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 20, and 21

The inventions described in Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 20, and 21 are not novel in the light of Document 1 cited in the international search report. The feature wherein "an area for which the area average character size is

greater than the extraction determination value, arrived at by multiplying the overall average character size by an extraction parameter, is extracted as the title area," described in Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 20, and 21, is disclosed in Document 1, paragraphs [0025], [0026], [0078], and [0079], as a feature wherein, when a given rectangular area is larger than a threshold value arrived at by multiplying the average height of a text area by a specified value, the aforementioned rectangular area is categorized as a non-text area, and within the area categorized as a non-text area, the area smaller than the largest font size and larger than the average text size is the title.

Claims 3, 4, 13, and 14

The inventions described in Claims 3, 4, 13, and 14 do not involve an inventive step in the light of above Document 1 and Document 2 cited in the written opinion. The categorizing of rectangular areas using a threshold value arrived at by multiplying the average height of a text area by a specified value, disclosed in Document 1, and the categorizing of a character pattern as large characters or small characters by the vertical length, horizontal length, or area of the aforementioned character pattern, disclosed in Document 2, paragraphs [0002], [0011], and [0012], share a common function and belong to the same technical field. Therefore, in the light of the features disclosed in Document 2, a person skilled in the art could easily conceive of using the width or area of a rectangular area instead of, as disclosed in Document 1, using the height of the aforementioned rectangular area to determine whether an area should be categorized as text or non-text.

Claims 8 and 18

index data corresponding to checked items on the aforementioned marked sheet is selected from index data recorded on an external memory device (6), and the aforementioned index data is recorded on the aforementioned marked sheet and made to correspond to the image data read next in sequence. Document 6, paragraphs [0050], [0051], and [0058], and Fig. 1, discloses an image forming device which records the feature amount for a mark stamped on documents to distinguish those for which copying is prohibited, and prohibits copying when the aforementioned mark is recognized in the read image data. Therefore, in the light of the features disclosed in Document 6, a person skilled in the art could easily conceive of stamping a mark on a document in place of using the marked sheet disclosed in Document 5, and recognizing this mark and specifying index data.

Claim 25

The invention described in Claim 25 does not involve an inventive step in the light of above Documents 5 and 14 and Document 7 cited in the written opinion. Document 7, page 2, lower right column, line 5 to page 3, upper right column, line 1, Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, discloses a circuit terminal device which recognizes character strings, which are attached to the margins of an original document, or marked sheets, and reads out corresponding telephone number data.